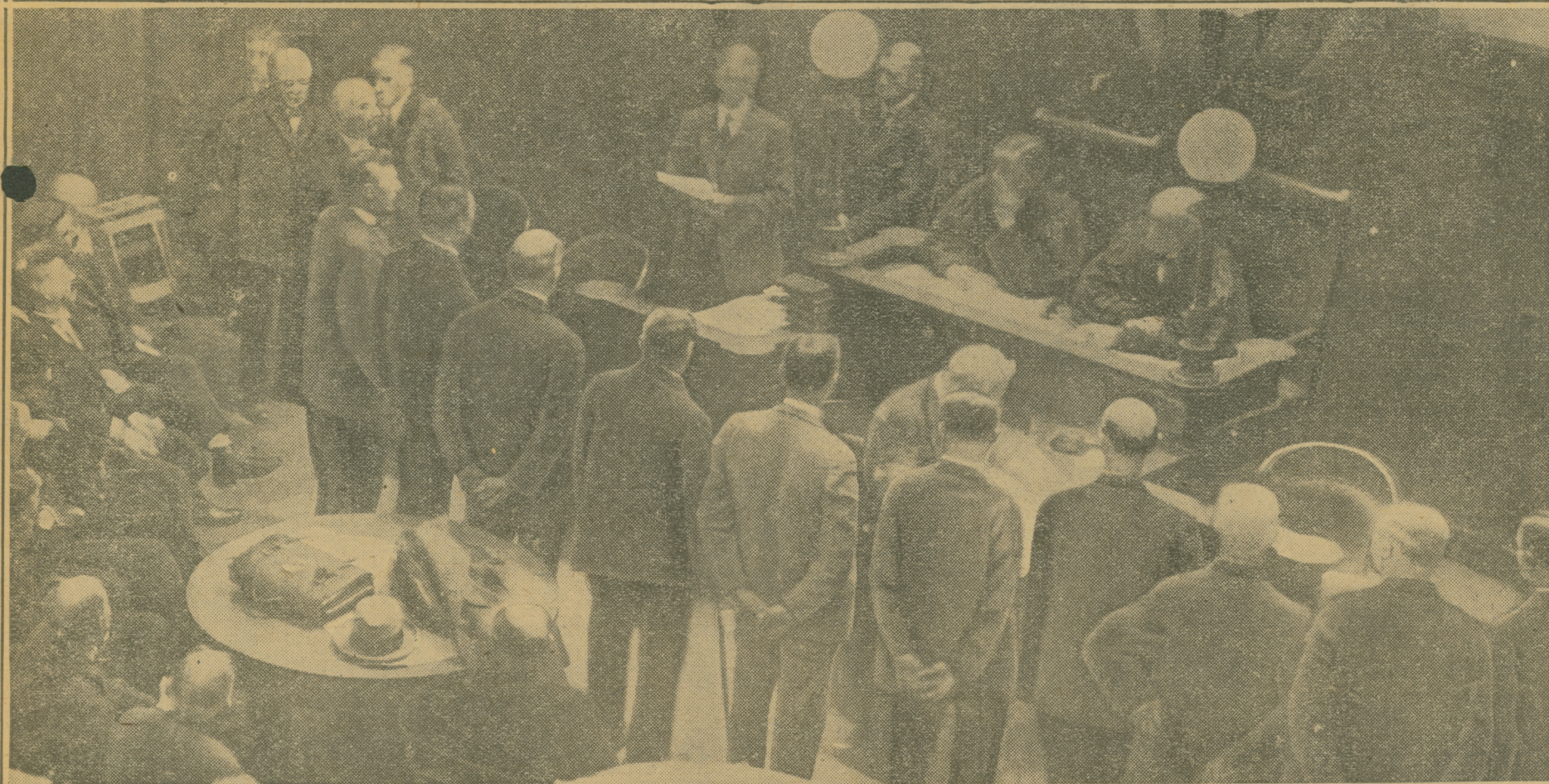


ALL HALL INDICTMENTS QUASHED; WIDOW AND 3 OF HER KIN CLEARED

Rendering the Anticipated Verdict in Hall-Mills Case



HERE "THE TWELVE good men and true"—so considered by the justices, despite the epithets cast at them by Special Prosecutor Simpson—are seen listening to the formal interrogation of the clerk of the court at Somerville, N. J., where the most remarkable murder trial of the age has just ended in the acquittal of the three persons accused.

Henry Carpender Freed; Simpson in Rage, to Quit

Special Dispatch to The GRAPHIC

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Dec. 4.—The yoke of guilt was lifted from the shoulders of the Hall-Mills defendants today.

The slates of the state, since July smeared with insinuation, allegation and hearsay, were wiped clean.

The nightmare of four months of prosecution and persecution faded as Supreme Court Justice Parker nolle prossed all the indictments charging the murder of Dr. Edward Wheeler Hall.

Somber and gray in the filtered light from the clouded sky during a five minute hearing, the courtroom seemed to leap into brightness when it had ended. Shoulders lifted and life and laughter broke the veil of sullen drama.

No More Trials

Frances Stevens Hall, widow of the slain rector, and her brothers, William and Henry Stevens, will not face the quick-tongued special prosecutor, Senator Alexander Simpson, again.

Henry de la Brynere Carpender, who faced trial for his alleged part in the brutal murders of Dr. Hall and Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills in De Russeys Lane four years ago, never will go on trial before Justice Parker and Judge Frank Cleary.

The four were in court today. Mrs. Hall and her brothers, acquitted of the slaying of Mrs. Mills, were confident and hopeful when they came into court. They felt the other indictments would be dismissed.

Carpender was hopeful, too. Attorney General Edward L. Katzenbach, representing the State of New Jersey, was in court in place of Senator Simpson.

Simpson Furious

Simpson remained in Jersey City. His fury was unleashed when he heard that his superior, Katzenbach, had asked the indictments be nolle prossed.

"I have been taken by surprise," he barked. "It has been done

against my opposition; it has been done over my head, and I consider it another blow aimed at justice."

He said he would tender his resignation as special prosecutor to Governor Moore immediately.

Katzenbach acted surely and quickly. A moment after he had

Not "Willie," William



SINCE HIS TESTIMONY and his acquittal, the boy-man has won the right to a more dignified approach. William fondly embraced his sister when he heard her as well as himself declared not guilty.

arrived at the court house here he conferred with counsel for the defendants and Justice Parker in an ante-room.

Many Vacant Seats

They filed out. There was a momentary delay after Justice Parker and Judge Cleary took their places on the bench.

"We are waiting for the defendants. They will be here in a moment."

There were vacant seats in the courtroom. Some people had come, however, to see the conclusion of the greatest murder trial ever staged. All looked toward the door on the left hand side of the courtroom, through which Mrs. Hall was expected to enter.

The gallery resembled that of a theater. The spectators looked as if they were expecting the curtain to fall on the last scene of the last act and that they might at any minute reach for hats and overcoats.

Mrs. Hall entered, just as a heroine, who has been through months of suffering, but who has been freed, should enter. She smiled. She walked briskly, her head erect. She looked about her, nodding pleasantly.

One expected to hear the crash of cymbals in a pit orchestra. One wondered why there was not a burst of applause.

Behind her came Willie, then Henry, and finally Carpender. The attorney general got to his feet.

Moves for Nolle Prossed

"The state moves to have the indictments returned by the April grand jury nolle prossed," he said.

Justice Parker declared that in view of the failure to convict on the indictments in the murder of Mrs. Mills, those charging the murder of Dr. Hall should be dismissed.

"The defendants now are discharged," he said. He explained that both indictments against Carpender also were quashed.

Carpender, member of a New York Stock Exchange house, was the particular object of congratulation by relatives and friends. For four months he has been held be-

State Wipes Slate Clean After Not Guilty Verdict

hind the bars of Somerset county jail.

"Great!" exclaimed Henry Stevens, shaking his hand. He beamed as defense attorneys pounded him jubilantly on the back.

Then all four were busy shaking hands with those who rushed forward to wish them well.

Flashlights boomed. Justice Parker forgot to be grim. He smiled broadly. For the first time he had discarded his immobile expression. And when he took the bench his official robes were absent.

"Let them shoot all they want

to," shouted Henry Stevens, referring to the photographers.

"God bless you," said Mrs. Hall, her eyes moist with tears of happiness, released with the let-up from long days of suffering, as she shook hands with Frank A. Dunster, jury foreman.

"I only did my duty," he replied warmly, and with a suspicious quaver in his voice.

Willie had his say, too. "You are honest men," beamed the jovial fellow to Raymond Young, another juror.

Justice Parker exchanged banter with court attendants. Henry Stevens came forward and shook his hand.

The reception lasted for fully half an hour.

Then Carpender headed for home in New Brunswick.

A Happy Reunion

Willie and Mrs. Hall were bundled into an automobile and driven to their home in Nichol Avenue, New Brunswick.

Henry greeted his wife affectionately, and, arm-in-arm, they went to their car, driving to their Somerville home before returning to Lavallette, N. J.

Mrs. Stevens displayed a silk scarf which had been sent her last night.

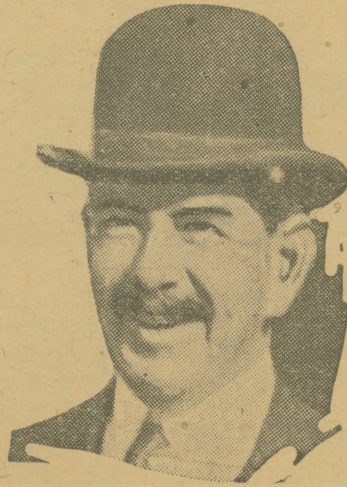
"I didn't know so many good things could happen at once," she said, laughing.

Henry Carpender is leaving on Monday, with his wife and Sidney Carpender, his cousin, for duck shooting on a plantation thirty miles from Charleston, S. C.

After the defendants had gone, there was much ado among counsel. Katzenbach explained that he had advised the indictments be set aside, as the state had no hope of obtaining convictions on them unless there was additional evidence.

(Continued on Page 8)

May Now Go Fishing



HENRY STEVENS, man of wealth and leisure and a famous follower of Izaak Walton, who it is confidently expected will be released from jail today, the Hall-Mills murder charges against him having failed.